

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:

Jim Menard, Area Management Biologist
Hilary Upicksoun, Salmon Catch Monitor
Phone: (907) 443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271
Fax: (907) 443-5893

Nome Area Office
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Nome, Alaska 99762
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**2013 Kotzebue News Release #27
KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING**

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 4 hours from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. Monday, August 12 in the Kotzebue District.

Catch during last night's 4-hour opening was 11,830 chum salmon by 35 permit holders. The commercial harvest to date is over 208,000 chum salmon. The commercial harvest this season is tracking ahead the department forecast range of 225,000 to 250,000 chum salmon. Last year by this date the harvest was 188,000 chum salmon and total harvest for the season was nearly 228,000 chum salmon.

Kobuk River test fish catch index continues to be strong with the total chum salmon catch index ranking second best in the 21-year project history.

Continuing with short duration commercial fishing periods should not jeopardize subsistence opportunity or escapement.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271 or the buyer at 442-4192.